

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 ACDA-05 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OPR-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 AID-05 OMB-01 SY-05 SCCT-01 /098 W

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O R 090913Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3659

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMECONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0729

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI AO

SUBJECT: LUANDA SITUATION AS OF 1000Z JUNE 9; UPDATE ON CABINDA

AND THE NORTH

CINCLANT AND CINCEUR FOR POLAD'S

1. FIGHTING CONTINUED AT A FULL TILT THROUGH THE EARLY
EVENING OF JUNE 7 BUT COMPLETELY SUBSIDED ON THE NIGHT OF
JUNE 7-8 IN THE FACE OF A STERN CEASE FIRE ORDER BY ALL THREE
LIBERATION ARMIES. SHOOTING RESUMED AGAIN DURING THE AFTERNOON

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OF JUNE 8 BUT WAS LESS INTENSE AND MORE LIMITED IN SCOPE THAN

ON JUNE 7. BY THE MORNING OF JUNE 9 A SEMBLANCE OF NORMALCY HAD RETURNED TO THE CITY WITH AFRICANS POURING FROM THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS TO GO TO WORK, A SURE SIGN THE VIOLENCE HAD SUBSIDED.

2. RADIO REPORTS INDICATE HEAVY FIGHTING BROKE OUT JUNE 7 IN THE INTERIOR CITY OF MALANGE WITH EXTENSIVE CASUALTIES. NO DETAILS WERE PROVIDED.

3. THE TENOR OF THE MOVEMENTS' COMMUNIQUEES ON JUNE 7-8 WERE SUBDUED, ALMOST APOLOGETIC. MPLA "PROFOUNDLY LAMENTED" THE "INCIDENTS" THAT OCCURRED BETWEEN IT AND UNITA, WITHOUT STATING WHAT HAPPENED. (MPLA ASSAULTED 5 UNITA DELEGATIONS, KILLING AND MUTILATING 34 UNITA RECRUITS.) FNLA, WITHOUT ADMITTING FAULT FOR HITTING THE CENTRAL HOSPITAL WITH TWO ROCKETS THAT KILLED THREE AND CAUSED THE EVACUATION OF HUNDREDS OF PATIENTS, DID OFFER ITS "SINCERE REGRETS." (A CONGEN OFFICER WHO VISITED THE AREA STATES THE RPGS WERE LAUNCHED FROM THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE NEARBY FNLA HQ.

4. CABINDA: A FORMAL TRUCE WAS SIGNED IN CABINDA CITY BY ALL THE MOVEMENTS. UNDER ITS TERMS NEARLY ALL LIBERATION ARMED FORCES MUST BE REMOVED A MINIMUM OF 12 KMS FROM THE CITY WITH EACH MOVEMENT ONLY ALLOWED TWO DELEGATIONS WITH 10 GUARDS APIECE IN TOWN. THIS IS SOMEWHAT MEANINGLESS NOW SINCE MPLA HAS A CLEAR CUT VICTORY AND HAS DEMONSTRATED ITS MILITARY SUPREMACY IN THE ENCLAVE. THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE REMNANTS OF FNLA'S 650 MAN FORCE IS STILL NOT KNOWN. ACCORDING TO AMERICANS EVACUATED FROM THERE MPLA WENT THROUGH THE CITY HOUSE BY HOUSE, ROOTING OUT FNLA TROOPS BY SIMPLY PUTTING AN RPG INTO EACH DWELLING. GULF HAS EVACUATED MANY OF ITS WORKERS, HMERICANS, PORTUGUESE AND ANGOLANS (BLACKS AND WHITES) TO LUANDA OR SAN ANTONIO DO ZAIRE. MANY DO NOT WANT TO RETURN TO WORK IN CABINDA.

5. CARMONA: FNLA'S VICTORY IN CARMONA IS COMPLETE. THE REMNANTS OF THE MPLA'S GARRISON THERE WERE FLOWN OUT BY THE PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE ON JUNE 7. ALL OF UIGE DISTRICT AND NEARLY ALL OF ZAIRE DISTRICT ARE NOW UNDER FNLA'S DE FACTOS CONTROL. UNITA IS ALLOWED TO MAINTAIN A POLITICAL AND MILITARY PRESENCE BUT IT IS SMALL AND PRESENTS NO CHALLENGE TO FNLA.

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6. UNITA: DESPITE IT'S COUNTER ATTACK UPON MPLA, SAVIMBI HAS CLEARLY NOT YET DECIDED TO GO ALL THE WAY WITH FNLA. HE TOLD A PORTUGUESE BANKER JUNE 8 THAT HE STILL HOPED TO AVOID A CIVIL WAR AND THAT HE WOULDN'T ALIGN HIMSELF AT THE PRESENT TIME.

7. IT'S DIFFICULT TO ASSESS THE RESULTS OF THE PRESENT

STRUGGLE IN LUANDA. FNLA DID HOLD ITS OWN MILITARILY AND UNITA
FINALLY FOUGHT BACK BUT MPLA CONTINUES TO HOLD THE INITIATIVE
IN THE CAPITAL - IT HAS POPULAR SUPPORT. CONTROL OF FNLA'S AND
UNITA'S SUPPLY ROUTES, AND ADEQUATE ARMS AND MUNITIONS. IT
APPEARS THAT A RADICAL WING OF MPLA CENTERED IN THE MILITARY
LEADERSHIP AND OBEYING ONLY PRESIDENT NETO WANTS A MILITARY
SHOWDOWN SOON. IT WAS THESE MEN WHO LAUNCHED THE ATTACKS
IN THE DEMBOS, CABINDA AND PROBABLY LUANDA IN THE PAST FORT-
NIGHT.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LUANDA00729
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750200-0524
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750669/aaaackpb.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUANDA SITUATION AS OF 1000Z JUNE 9; UPDATE ON CABINDA AND THE NORTH
TAGS: MILI, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006